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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

13 SEPTEMBER 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Man Pleads Guilty to Lying about Jihadist Brother

(U) A San Diego man pleaded guilty yesterday to lying during a terrorism investigation of his brother, who was killed while fighting for the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Syria. Marchello McCain, 34, acknowledged in a plea agreement that he supplied the FBI with false information about his brother's plans to be a jihadist in Syria and the financing for his brother's overseas trip, federal prosecutors said. McCain faces up to eight years in federal prison when he is sentenced in December. SOURCE: 12 September 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Pentagon Confirms Death of ISIL Spokesman

(U) Washington – The Pentagon has confirmed the death of top ISIL spokesman and overseas plotter Abu Muhammad al-Adnani in an airstrike in Syria nearly two weeks ago. US officials announced the airstrike targeting al-Adnani on 30 August, but said they were awaiting a final assessment to see if he had been killed. "The Department of Defense has confirmed that the U.S. precision airstrike on Aug. 30 targeting senior ISIL leader Abu Muhammad Al-Adnani was successful," said Peter Cook, the Pentagon press secretary, in a statement.

SOURCE: 12 September 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) Florida – Police Investigating Arson at Mosque Attended by Omar Mateen

(U) Fort Pierce – Police say an overnight fire at the Islamic Center of Fort Pierce, the Florida mosque that Pulse nightclub shooter Omar Mateen attended, was an act of arson. Surveillance footage shows a person approaching the mosque just moments before a flash is seen and a fire starts. The person seen on the surveillance footage fled the scene, investigators say. Authorities are working on releasing the footage and are requesting the public's help in identifying the suspect. Multiple federal agencies are assisting in the investigation.

SOURCE: 12 September 2016, [NPR](#)

(U) North Carolina – Officer Killed after Being Shot

(U) Shelby – A North Carolina police officer who was shot and wounded as he attempted to serve warrants on a man died yesterday, authorities said. Shelby Police Chief Jeff Ledford said in a statement that Officer Tim Brackeen, 38 and who was a 12-year veteran of the force, died at a Charlotte hospital. Ledford said Brackeen was looking for 23-year-old Irving Lucien Fenner Jr. early Saturday morning to serve warrants on him. According to the chief, Brackeen found Fenner at a home, where the two struggled before Brackeen was shot in the chest. Fenner was initially charged with attempted murder, but Ledford said the charge has been upgraded to first-degree murder.

SOURCE: 12 September 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) France – Paris Attack Planners Used Encrypted Apps**

(U) Paris – Weeks before ISIL fighter Abdelhamid Abaaoud led the 13 November terror attacks in Paris, French authorities thought he was in northern Syria. Western Intelligence agencies pursuing Abaaoud had tracked him there using cell-phone location data and other electronic footprints. Drawing from a growing bag of methods, ISIL accomplices located in Syria likely used phones and WhatsApp accounts belonging to Abaaoud and other attackers to mask the group's travel to Europe, said a Western security official.

SOURCE: 11 September 2016, [The Wall Street Journal](#)

(U) Germany – 3 Syrians Believed Sent by ISIL Arrested

(U) Berlin – Three Syrian men believed to have been sent to Germany last year by ISIL as a possible "sleeper cell" were arrested in raids today, part of efforts to root out extremists sent to Europe amid the migrant influx, authorities said. The three are accused of coming to Germany in mid-November at the behest of ISIL "in order either to carry out an assignment they had already received or to keep themselves ready for further instructions," federal prosecutors said. The three are suspected of membership in a foreign terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 13 September 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) Turkey – Turkey Formally Requests US to Arrest Fethullah Gulen

(U) Istanbul – Turkey's state-run news agency says the Justice Ministry has sent the United States its first formal request demanding the arrest of the alleged mastermind of July's abortive coup. Justice Ministry officials told Anadolu the written request sent to counterparts in Washington alleged the Pennsylvania-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen "gave the orders and commanded" the violent coup that killed over 270 people. Gulen denies any involvement. Turkish officials have been informally demanding the cleric's arrest and extradition for weeks.

SOURCE: 13 September 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Mexico – Authorities Arrest Senior Beltran Leyva Cartel Leader**

(U) Sonora – Authorities in Mexico announced the capture of Clara Elena Laborín Archuleta, also referred to as "La Señora" or "The Lady," the wife of Hector Beltran Leyva, the head of the Beltran Leyva Organization (BLO) on 12 September. According to El Universal, Laborín Archuleta assumed a leadership position within the Beltran Leyva Cartel following the 2014 arrest of her husband. She is believed to have facilitated shipments of narcotics into the United States. Laborin Archuleta is one of 50 priority objectives listed by the Mexican government as part of a new strategy aimed at confronting organized crime groups in Mexico's most violent state of Guerrero.

SOURCE: 12 September 2016, [El Universal](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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